

[20 April, 2001]

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last two years *i.e.* 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Provision for improved Medicine Kits and pre-school learning material for young children has been made in the Anganwadi centres. Guidelines for strengthening of IEC and Community Mobilisation under ICDS have been introduced. For quality service delivery, the financial norms related to equipment/furniture, contingency in Anganwadi Centres has been enhanced. In addition, guidelines for strengthening the monitoring mechanism have been issued alongwith enhanced provision for POL. An innovative and decentralized training programme called "Udisha" has been introduced nation wide.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Target and achievements under ICDS during last two years

	1998-1999		1999-2000	
	Target	Achivement	Target	Achievement
No. of operational ICDS Projects	3882	4200	4200	4348
No. of Beneficiaries under Supplementary Nutrition Programme.	30158338	25486703	31971685	33875182
No. of Beneficiaries receiving Pre-School Education.	15478266	11759774	17347489	15139551

Consideration of National Curriculum framework by CABE

3889. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convene the Central Advisory Board for Education (CABE) to consider the recently released National Curriculum Framework for School Education, prepared by NCERT; and

(b) if so, by when the meeting is likely to be convened?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Preparation of new syllabus and text books by NCERT

3890. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has started preparing new syllabus and text books, based on the recently released "National Curriculum Framework for School Education";

(b) whether NCERT has decided to scrap all the History text books it brought out over the years;

(c) whether it has finalised the list of experts who would prepare the new History syllabus and textbooks; and

(d) if so, who are the experts selected by NCERT for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The new History syllabus has been prepared by involving school teachers, experts, educationists, etc. As regards preparation of books, the list of experts/authors has not been finalised.

UGC recognition to astrology

3891. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has given recognition to Astrology being taught at College/University levels;

(b) if so, whether the syllabus for courses equivalent to Graduation has been finalized;

(c) what preparations have been made to make available vernacular versions to suit the medium of instructions adopted by each